

Tourism and Resource Management Experts Namibia

OPPORTUNITY: The U.S. Department of the Interior's (DOI) International Technical Assistance Program (ITAP) is seeking qualified experts in specific tourism and resource management areas to provide technical assistance in Namibia.

BACKGROUND: DOI ITAP provides assistance to developing countries on subjects of Departmental expertise, on a reimbursable basis. The program is currently operating in seventeen countries with support from organizations such as the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the Millennium Challenge Corporation.

In Namibia, DOI-ITAP will be providing technical assistance to assess the feasibility of a tourism development program. Tourism is a viable growth sector in Namibia. Namibia has a variety of diverse landscapes and cultures, rich wildlife resources, and an extensive and renowned protected area system. In addition, Namibia has a communal conservancy system that offers incentives for conservation to local communities.

The Government of Namibia recognizes the increasing value of the tourism sector, and the sector's linkages to the sustainable management of its natural and cultural resources. The Government is therefore interested in pursuing a variety of activities to support growth in this sector, including:

- Stimulating the establishment of new lodges;
- Establishing a series of tourism and information centers;
- Developing an assortment of access and game-viewing tracks;
- Setting up high-value game breeding camps;
- Promoting park/community co-management structures;
- Improving fences and wildlife water points;
- Reintroducing selected game species; and
- Upgrading border posts.

DOI-ITAP teams will be asked to assess the feasibility of these activities and provide recommendations.

ASSIGNMENT: It is anticipated that one or more teams will travel to the region during the first quarter of CY2007. The assignments will be for approximately 2 weeks in the field, with some days required for preparation and follow-up at duty stations within the U.S.

SCHEDULE: These two-week assignments will likely begin in January 2007, with some degree of flexibility for setting dates amenable to selected candidates.

PRE- AND POST-TRIP DUTIES: All travel and in-country logistics will be handled by DOI-ITAP. Background material will be provided to the selected individuals prior to departure. The selected individuals will be expected to work in collaboration with the DOI-ITAP manager on the preparation and follow-up for the technical assistance over phone and email.

Within 3 weeks of the completion of the trip, the team will provide the DOI-ITAP manager a brief draft trip report of the trip events, evaluations made, and recommendations for future related training and technical assistance in Namibia.

COSTS: The International Technical Assistance Program will cover all travel costs associated with this assignment (round-trip airfare, lodging, meals, immunizations, per diem, etc.). The salaries of the team members, however, will be paid by their employing DOI agency for the duration of the international assignment, including pre- and post-trip obligation.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Persons wishing to be considered for this assignment:

- Must be a current or retired employee of DOI;
- Must have demonstrated experience in one or more aspects of the following:
 - Tourism development strategies in southern Africa;
 - Natural resource management strategies in southern Africa;
 - Environmental impact assessments;
 - Lodge development;
 - Development of tourism and information centers;
 - Development of access and game-viewing tracks;
 - Setting up high-value game breeding camps;
 - Promoting park/community co-management structures;
 - Fencing and wildlife water points;
 - Reintroduction of game species; and
 - Border posts.
- Must have demonstrated ability to work with and adapt to the needs and abilities of agencies and professionals of different ethnic or cultural groups;
- Previous international experience in southern Africa is desirable.

Upon selection, candidates must submit a current physician-signed letter or medical review form indicating fitness for duty.

If you are selected for this assignment you will be responsible for obtaining your supervisor's approval to participate in this program.

HOW TO APPLY

Persons interested in being considered for this international assignment should send a resume or letter summarizing relevant work experience, and a note indicating supervisory concurrence. A form SF 171 is acceptable. Please submit applications (electronically is preferred) to:

Barbara Pitkin
Office of International Affairs
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW MS 3547
Washington, DC 20240
Tel: (202) 208-5221
Fax: (202) 501-6381
e-mail: bpitkin@ios.doi.gov

All applications should be submitted no later than COB, November 30. Applications will be reviewed and interviews conducted as they are received.

All NPS applicants should also copy their applications to Rudy D'Alessandro in the NPS Office of International Affairs.

Application Process

A short list of candidates will be interviewed by telephone. The entire selection process may take several weeks. All candidates will be notified of the results of the selection process by telephone, email or letter.

This announcement has been developed in collaboration with NPS/OIA and USFWS/OIA. The position is open to all applicants that meet the stated requirements.